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Rural District of Daventry



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year 1963

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**JOAN M. ST. V. DAWKINS,**  
Medical Officer of Health.



**To: The Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council  
of Daventry**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Eighth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, incorporating that of the Public Health Inspector. This affords me the opportunity to review the health of the District, and to observe the trends in living which are inimical to positive health. It is a time for observation and reflection.

Each year the environment is improved by the provision of new sewage works, slums are replaced by new houses, and older properties are improved by means of grants. The District has the benefit of excellent piped water supplied by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board, and there is virtually no atmospheric pollution. During the year the Council voted unanimously for the provision of fluoridated water which may later be implemented.

The sewage scheme for Welton was completed, while those at Everdon, Norton, and Charwelton were started. Slum clearance proceeded, though in the villages where no building land is available for houses to replace slum dwellings, some necessary schemes must be deferred. After eight and a half years the Council has dealt with 646 houses. The two five-year plans of the Council were to deal with a total of 522 houses, and it can be seen that this figure has been well surpassed already. Very often a slum tenant is given a house which becomes vacant from the general list, thus saving the Council the necessity of building a new house for replacement. During the last year 33 such tenancies were granted under the various sections of the Housing Act.

The vital statistics for the year 1963 show that there were 202 deaths, 14 more than last year. This gives a standardised rate of 11.496, compared with 10.313 last year, and with the national figure of 12.2. Male deaths exceeded female deaths by 34. Details and comments on the causes of death are shown on later pages.

The total number of births was 306, showing an increase of 30 on last year's figure of 276, of which 22 were illegitimate. This figure shows a startling rise of from 9 last year to 22 this year and must be noted with concern. There were 4 infant deaths, three in the first month of life.

There was a large increase in infectious diseases, notifications showing a rise from 49 to 344, due to the biennial incidence of measles, when notifications rose from 24 to 300. Once again there were no cases of poliomyelitis. There was one case of food poisoning and 16 cases of dysentery, which were confined to family outbreaks.

This year 7 people died from pneumonia and 9 from bronchitis. There were no deaths from influenza, and 3 from tuberculosis. It is always gratifying to record the low death rate from tuberculosis, which has been so largely conquered. There is still, however, considerable ill-health resulting from infections of the respiratory tract. Many still suffer from chronic bronchitis and other catarrhal infections. These, together with influenza, still remain the commonest cause of incapacity for work.

The statistics for immunisation are included in the County Council statistics and are no longer broken down into individual districts. The local figures are therefore not available.

However, I wish to stress the need for continued immunisation of infants and young children to diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox, and early teenagers to tuberculosis. It is only by maintaining a high level of immunisation that these diseases are prevented.



At the time of writing the typhoid outbreak at Aberdeen has recently occurred. The necessity for the strictest hygiene in the preparation and handling of food cannot be too strongly emphasised, and the need for all food handlers to be aware of the serious illness that can be caused through carelessness in their own personal habits.

Despite the progress made there remain factors which prevent complacency. The new era of the Welfare State, with full employment, little poverty and a society constantly able to afford and be in receipt of extra benefits leading to an increase of leisure and general prosperity, presents new problems which afford no easy solution.

In the sphere of mental health there are still many aspects of ill-health which could be prevented, with the consequent alleviation of much human misery. The splendid project which the County Council, together with the Red Cross, have sponsored this year, has brought to light the further need for much action. The stable family which should be the lynch pin of society is often broken, leading to insecurity among the younger members and ending in failure of maturity, which may result in unstable and unhappy individuals, some becoming criminals, others failing in life and work.

Many die needlessly from accident both in the home and on the roads. More cars will lead inevitably to further accidents, and unless a maturer attitude is adopted the carnage will yearly increase. The prevention of road accidents is a further aspect of mental health, and one may reflect on the mental attitude of lorry drivers driving blindly fast on our own section of the M.1 in the winter of 1963, thus causing death or mutilation to those who were exercising care.

Physical exertion by both men and women is constantly diminishing, resulting in an earlier incidence of coronary disease and strokes. This aspect of modern life must cause increasing concern, and it should be the objective of all individuals to exert themselves physically each day.

Diet is often unsuitable. Many are too abese and consume too much prepared and starchy foods. The incidence of dental decay in the young is far too prevalent. Fluoridation may ultimately help to harden the teeth of the new generation.

Finally, each year the incidence of cancer of the lung increases. Last year the national death rate was 24.422. Heavy smoking and cancer of the lung are unimpeachably related. Each new generation should be given the facts and be made aware of the dangers.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Public Health Department for their excellent work during the year, and for their help in the compilation of this report. In addition, I wish to extend my grateful thanks to the Chairman of the Council and the Chairmen of the Public Health and Housing Committees for their help and encouragement.

Finally, I express my appreciation of the County Medical Officer of Health for his ready co-operation in supplying relevant information.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

JOAN M. St. V. DAWKINS,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,  
Church Walk,  
DAVENTRY.  
Telephones : Daventry 2184-5.

# Daventry Rural District Council

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## **Members of the Housing and Public Health Committees:—**

Chairman of Housing Committee : Mr. Councillor H. A. Malin.

Chairman of Public Health Committee : Mr. Councillor S. Allen.

Messrs. Councillors J. W. Anscomb, J.P., C.A. (Chairman of the Council); J. O. Adams, J.P.; S. Allen; Mrs. G. Atterbury; C. E. Browne, M.B.E.; H. E. Burdett; A. R. Busby; E. R. Buswell; Rev. C. Casson; Rev. Canon E. J. A. Dunn; S. K. Foster; C. E. Gibbes; F. Harris; R. B. Harris; W. S. Harrison; the late W. A. Hart; H. A. Hupfield; J. R. Hutt; Mrs. M. A. Lemon; Mrs. R. E. Lucas; H. A. Malin; Mrs. J. M. Mannix; Major J. K. Maxwell; F. T. McNally; W. J. Preece, C.C.; Rev. M. T. Porteus; Rev. S. F. W. Powell; R. H. Quiney; F. W. Robinson; T. W. Russell; the late Mrs. C. M. S. Thornton, C.C.; G. Thorpe and W. J. Webb.

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## **Public Health Officers of the Council**

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. J. M. St. V. Dawkins, M.B.B.S, D.P.H., D.C.H.

Also holds appointment of

Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Borough and Brixworth Rural District;

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and County School Medical Officer.

Public Health Inspector : J. M. Harkness, R.S.I.J.B., M.P.H.A.I.

Public Health Inspector's Assistant : B. C. Lines

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1963

Area (in acres)	79,243
Population (mid-year estimated by Registrar-General)	16,520
Number of separate dwellings occupied	5,778
Number of caravans occupied	33
Rateable Value	£386,387 os. od.
Product of a penny rate	£1,595 os. od.

### Vital Statistics

Live Births : 306. Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18.52
Still Births : 5. Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	16.07
Total Live and Still Births : 311.	
Infant Deaths : 4. Legitimate 3, Illegitimate 1.	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	13.07
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births, legitimate	10.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births, illegitimate	45.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	12.8
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births	7.1 %
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	nil
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	nil

### Table showing Births and Deaths

Live Births (rate per 1,000 total population)				Rate for England and Wales
	Male	Female	Total	Rate
Legitimate	153	131	284	
Illegitimate	15	7	22	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	168	138	306	18.52
				18.2
Still Births (rate per 1,000 live and still births)				Rate for England and Wales
	Male	Female	Total	Rate
Legitimate	1	4	5	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	1	4	5	16.07
				17.3
Deaths (rate per 1,000 total population)				Rate for England and Wales
	Male	Female	Total	Rate
All Causes	118	84	202	12.23
				12.2
Maternal Mortality : nil.				0.28

Deaths from Infectious Diseases : nil.

**Infant Mortality :** There were 4 deaths, 3 males and 1 female; 2 deaths occurred under 1 week of life and 1 under 4 weeks of life. This gave a rate of 12.8 compared with 7.2 the previous year.

	Male	Female	Total	Rate	Rate for England and Wales
Legitimate	2	1	3		
Illegitimate	1	—	1		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	3	1	4	12.8	20.9



# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths		All Ages	
		No.	Crude Rate	Under 1 year No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1948	15,850	281	17.6	6	21.0	167	10.60
1949	15,900	250	15.7	14	56.0	217	16.10
1950	15,840	255	16.0	5	19.6	190	11.90
1951	16,290	274	16.9	4	14.6	201	12.30
1952	16,440	236	14.3	7	29.6	182	11.07
1953	16,480	252	15.29	7	27.7	162	9.83
1954	16,590	257	15.27	2	7.7	202	12.1
1955	16,550	222	13.3	5	22.5	185	11.21
1956	16,490	265	16.09	5	22.5	185	11.21
1957	16,450	269	16.35	5	18.58	197	11.97
1958	16,370	267	16.3	9	33.7	196	11.36
1959	16,480	248	15.05	3	11.8	185	11.2
1960	16,190	251	15.5	5	19.9	188	11.6
1961	15,830	249	15.7	2	8.0	186	11.7
1962	16,050	276	17.9	2	7.2	188	11.09
1963	16,520	306	18.52	4	12.8	202	12.23

## SECTION A.

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The District is largely rural, and though the principal occupation is agriculture, the great majority of the working population are, however, employed in industry either in Daventry, Rugby, Banbury, Northampton, or Coventry. A railway depot of considerable size is situated at Woodford Halse, though its future is doubtful. At Weedon there is an Ordnance Depot which is expected to close next year. There are a number of small light engineering factories in the District, but the Boot and Shoe industry, formerly employing large numbers, particularly in Long Buckby, has steadily declined. The London—Birmingham north-bound Motorways extend through the District from Flore to the Warwickshire border, while work is still in progress on the extension of the Motorway from Crick northwards into Leicestershire. There are large service cafes and filling stations on each side of the Motorway at Watford Gap where enlargements have been made to the catering premises during the year. There is a low accident rate on the Motorway.

**Area:** The area of the District is 79,243 acres or 124.2 square miles, which gives an average of one person to 4.8 acres or 133 persons to the square mile.

**Population:** The Registrar-General's estimated mid-year population of the District was 16,520, showing a considerable increase on the figure for 1962. Even with this total, it is wondered if the estimate is low, since there has been an increase in the numbers of private houses occupied, nearly all by persons from outside the District; also the natural increase in population, i.e., excess births over deaths was 104.

**Deaths:** The total number of deaths recorded was 202, showing an increase of 14 compared with 1962. The standardised death rate for 1962 was 11.496, compared with 12.2 for England and Wales. The standardised rate is calculated from the Registrar-General's comparability figure (0.94) which makes allowance for age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, and is adjusted specifically to take into account of the presence of any residential institution in the area.

**Births:** The number was 306, showing an increase of 30 compared with the figure for 1962, and giving a standardised birth rate of 16.07 (calculated on the Registrar-General's comparability figure, 1.15), compared with 18.2 for England and Wales per 1,000 of the total population.

**Still Births:** The figure for 1963 shows a decrease compared with 1962, it being 5 as compared with 6 the previous year, and gave a rate of 16.07 per 1,000 live and still births.

**Illegitimate Births:** The startling rise in the illegitimate rate for the area is a cause for considerable anxiety. The numbers have risen from 9 last year to 22 this year, showing a two and a half fold increase.

**Maternal Mortality:** No death was recorded.

**Infant Mortality:** The number of children under 1 year who died was 4, an increase of 2 on the previous year; 3 deaths occurred in the first 4 weeks of life, of which 2 were in the first week.

Causes of Infant Deaths were as follows:—

Age	Sex	Cause of Death
2 days	M	Atelectasis. Gross Prematurity.
4 days	M	Prematurity.
3 weeks	M	Congenital Malformation. Hydrocephaly.
2 months	M	Interstitial Pneumonia



# CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1963 IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF DAVENTRY

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total		AGE IN YEARS									
		All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year		—							
				1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75 & over	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory .. ..	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. ..	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .. ..	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. ..	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. ..	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms .. ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .. ..	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .. ..	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Coronary Disease, Angina .. ..	F	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .. ..	F	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Other Heart Disease .. ..	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21. Other Circulatory Disease .. ..	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia .. ..	F	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. Bronchitis .. ..	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. ..	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .. ..	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .. ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .. ..	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations .. ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .. ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34. All Other Accidents .. ..	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35. Suicide .. ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES .. ..	M	118	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	84	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

This year the Registrar-General has listed the Causes of Death in the groups, of under 1 year, then in quincades to 15, and thereafter of decades to 75 and over. Male and female deaths are also shown.

The vital statistics for the year show that there were 202 deaths, 14 more than last year. This gives a standardised rate of 11.496, compared with the national figure of 12.2. Male deaths exceeded female deaths by 34. The great preponderance of deaths from diseases of the heart and circulation is once more evident, making a total of 110, of which 43 died from coronary disease alone, while 38 died from other heart disease and a further 27 from vascular lesions of the nervous system.

Diseases of the heart and circulation constitute therefore once again over half the total deaths. Cancer remains the second highest cause of death, taking this year 43 persons, an increase of 17 on last year. Thus diseases of the heart and circulation together with cancer cause 75% of the total deaths.

The trend of principal causes of death continues therefore towards the mainly degenerative and neoplastic conditions, and away from infectious disease, now largely controlled by the wide number of antibiotic and other drugs. However, it can be seen that over 50 persons out of a total of 202 deaths, died before the age of 65. The causes of their deaths were predominately either due to accidents, arterial disease, or cancer.

Accidents, both on the road and in the home, take an indiscriminate toll of young and old. On the road there is an ever increasing carnage, which, if caused by an infectious disease, would create a consternation so urgent that every power would be invoked for its control. Each year more automobiles are licensed, and soon no family will be without its motor car.

Accidents in the home are all preventable, yet last year over 7,000 died as a result of such accidents, and no doubt countless thousands were injured. Those affected are usually the young and the aged. Mothers of young children need always to be on the look-out for hazards, particularly in relation to burns and scalds, accidental poisoning and electricity. The aged have the problem of failure of sight, hearing, smell, and balance, and their environment needs organising to combat these deficiencies.

The automobile may also play its part as an indirect cause of another often fatal and crippling condition, Atherosclerosis. This is a mainly degenerative condition of the arteries affecting all ultimately but becoming now more evident in the earlier years. It is a disease of an affluent, largely sedentary car driving society, where men, instead of hunting or growing their food, ride to work in cars and seldom use their muscles; who eat more than they need and worry too much, and whose leisure is often spent looking at television. Here in this district, 3 men under 45 years and 7 under 65 years have died from coronary artery disease of the heart, while a further 2 under 55 have died from strokes. The necessity for the taking of regular physical exercise from early youth to old age cannot be too strongly emphasised. As your Medical Officer, each year I stress this matter, and proffer the following advice: Devise ways of taking pleasurable exercise, garden, or take a hobby involving physical labour, walk whenever it is possible, run upstairs instead of using the lift, buy a dog, go dancing, go cycling with the children, or join keep fit classes. I would like to see more middle aged men and women danc-

ing. This is a convivial and healthy way of spending an evening, and splendid exercise.

Finally, there are the deaths the cause of which as yet evade us. These are largely the group of cancers. There remains one condition, that of cancer of the lung, which has been proved to have a relationship with cigarette smoking. Last year 24,422, a further increase of a 1,000, people died as a result of such cancer. Eleven were from this district. Yet cigarette smoking declines little. It is the duty of every parent, teacher, and those who influence the young to see that each succeeding generation of young people are aware of the hazards that await them when they start regular smoking.



**STATISTICS SHOWING POPULATION AND NUMBERS OF  
OCCUPIED HOUSES IN EACH PARISH OF THE DISTRICT**

Parish	Population			Number of Occupied Houses		Total
	1931 census	1951 census	1961 census	Private Houses	Council Houses	
Ashby St. Ledgers	210	196	142	52	—	52
Badby	440	478	483	110	66	176
Barby	471	536	427	149	40	189
Braunston	1015	1161	1198	214	180	394
Brockhall	38	34	29	8	—	8
Byfield	868	796	838	176	132	308
Canons Ashby	49	42	23	10	—	10
Catesby	91	85	80	28	—	28
Charwelton	165	166	157	43	8	51
Clay Coton	71	51	54	13	4	17
Crick	681	728	780	244	61	305
Dodford	238	216	162	48	5	53
Elkington	69	62	53	18	—	18
Everdon	406	420	364	110	20	130
Farthingstone	177	174	145	52	8	60
Fawsley	29	21	29	13	—	13
Flore	786	896	927	249	106	355
Hellidon	148	160	141	52	4	56
Kilsby	501	558	666	142	71	213
Lilbourne	209	241	227	81	29	109
Long Buckby	2325	2316	2368	639	213	852
Newnham	356	383	358	102	32	134
Norton	315	265	243	109	—	109
Preston Capes	156	167	162	54	6	60
Stanford	53	43	36	12	—	12
Staverton	319	361	365	82	30	112
Stowe-IX-Churches	219	180	151	62	4	66
Watford	324	281	236	75	8	83
Weedon	1750	1734	1489	299	207	506
Welton	358	381	364	93	51	144
West Haddon	714	704	770	205	64	269
Wilton	216	168	171	57	10	67
Winwick	153	89	92	33	—	33
Woodford Halse	1740	1764	1775	420	204	624
Yelvertoft	349	462	451	118	44	162
	<hr/> 16009	<hr/> 16293	<hr/> 15956	<hr/> 4172	<hr/> 1606	<hr/> 5778

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

**Laboratory Service :** The Public Health Laboratory Service operating at the General Hospital, Northampton, was available for the diagnosis and analysis of specimens relative to infectious disease, and also for the bacteriological examination of water samples, and was free of cost to the authority. A helpful and efficient service is provided, and we thank Dr. Hoyle for his constant co-operation.

**Ambulance Service :** A local ambulance, under the control of the County Council, is used for cases occurring in the District.

**Nursing in the Home, Midwives and Health Visitor Service :** These are provided directly by the County Council, who have their nurses living in various parishes in the District.

**The Home Help Service :** Also provided by the County Council, in operation in several parishes in the District. It is a very necessary service and affords considerable benefit to the community, both to domiciliary maternity cases, and in the case of old people who can remain comfortably at home, and whom, without this help, would be in institutions.

**Child Welfare Centres and Clinics :** Infant Welfare Clinics were held at Long Buckby, Weedon, West Haddon, and Woodford Halse. Transport facilities were provided by the County Council in various parts of the District for mothers and children to attend clinics at a nearby centre. In addition the villages of Lilbourne, Yelvertoft, Stanford-on-Avon, Welton, Elkington, Winwick, Charwelton, Norton, Staverton, Everdon, Preston Capes, Badby, and Newnham have access to the mobile caravan clinic, which was instituted to give clinic service to areas previously lacking this amenity.

**Hospitals :** Those suffering from infectious disease were treated at Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton. Sufferers from tuberculosis who required institutional treatment were sent either to Creaton or Rushden House Sanatoria. The majority went to Creaton.

All other general and surgical cases were treated at Northampton General Hospital, Danetre Hospital, Horton Infirmary, Banbury, or Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby. The continued treatment of patients at Danetre Hospital has been beneficial to the District, for patients and friends alike.

**Visit of Anti-Smoking Unit of the Central Council of Health Education** Together with the Borough of Daventry, the Council agreed to support the visit to the district of the Units of the Central Council of Health Education. A team visited schools in Borough and District and a comprehensive course was given in early May on the dangers of smoking. The propaganda was directed mostly towards the teenage age group of the population.

**County Council Mental Health Year Project :** To mark the centenary of the Red Cross, which was celebrated this year, the County Council and members of the Red Cross co-operated in a Mental Health Year Project. The objective was to educate, with the hope to influence, the public outlook towards mental health.

Homes were visited by members of the Red Cross and Health Visitors, who completed detailed questionnaires designed to reveal public attitude to mental health. There then followed a period of intensive education throughout the county, when meetings, films, visits and discussion groups were held. Broadcasts and Television programmes, heard and seen on a national level were also organised. Finally, a further questionnaire was sent out, the results of which are now in course of analysis. It is to be hoped that this fine project succeeds in influencing the public attitude in a favourable manner to those affected by mental illness or subnormality.



## WELFARE OF THE AGED

**National Assistance Act, 1948 and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951 :** No action was necessary under section 47 during the past year.

The following provide services for old people :

### 1. National Health Service

- (a) General Practitioner
- (b) Hospital and Specialist Services, including the Almoner Service.

### 2. The County Council

#### (a) The Health Department

- (i) District Nurses
- (ii) Health Visitors
- (iii) Home Help Service. The Home Help Service is of inestimable value in the prevention of breakdown in the aged, and many are able to remain in their own homes who would otherwise have to be removed to institutions. Several old people were kept under observation during the year.

#### (b) The Welfare Department

- (i) Part III accommodation and homes
- (ii) Special Services for the Blind, etc., and home fittings where necessary

### 3. The National Assistance Board

Financial help where necessary

### 4. The District Council

Homes for the aged, flats, and in some cases flatlets, with Warden supervision.

### 5. Voluntary Organisations

These are many and services vary in different areas. They include holiday schemes in which old people are taken on seaside holidays in off-season times; the Darby and Joan Clubs; "Meals on Wheels" Service; the Home Visiting. The Women's Voluntary Service very often undertake many of the above duties, while in other areas local voluntary committees run the various organisations. The Rural Communities' Council, together with the Old People's Welfare Committee, provide co-operation between the various services

Your medical officer of health, having a special interest in the welfare of the aged, and by virtue of her appointment both to the District and the County Council, and by her relationship with other medical colleagues, endeavours to fulfil the function of co-operation and co-ordination between these many agencies. Many cases of breakdown can be prevented by early application of these services.

Voluntary organisations have also requested your medical officer to give lectures and talks, and each invitation received is accepted and fulfilled.

The following are reports received from Darby and Joan Clubs on their activities during the year, and my thanks are expressed to the contributors.

**LONG BUCKBY DARBY AND JOAN CLUB — SOCIAL CLUB** (Joint Secretaries, Mrs. F. E. Kingston and Mrs. B. Underwood). Report from Mrs. Kingston : “ This Club has been running for seven years. The year has been a very successful one, due to the hard-working and enthusiastic Committee, and to the generous interest in the Club by all branches of the village.

The Social Club gave all the members a wonderful supper, with presents for all and buttonholes and caps, and entertained them with games and dancing

Mr. Christie, at the King's Head, held his annual Flower Show in aid of the Club, and again presented us with just over £70, which enables us to run the Club very successfully.

Many outings, mystery trips, and theatre visits have taken place, in each case tea being provided for the members, and sixteen members spent an enjoyable week in Clacton. At our usual fortnightly meetings the members enjoy dominoes, whist, cribbage, raffles and film shows, and each year we have a Christmas party at which the Long Buckby Women's Institute provide a splendid entertainment. Also the Long Buckby Baptist ladies gave us an enjoyable choral entertainment.

The chiropodist visits the club twice a month, for which the members pay 2/6. The three clergymen from the various churches visit us frequently, the doctors give us much help, and we have three bath chairs for the use of members. Our membership is still 150 strong; each gets a birthday card. Flowers and fruit are sent to the sick, and the members themselves are encouraged to visit each other.”

**WEST HADDON W.V.S. DARBY AND JOAN CLUB.**—Hon. Secretary and Leader, Mrs. I. E. Crawley, who gave this report : “ The Club meets fortnightly. The membership has increased to 54, so that we are doing more than retain our numbers. At the fortnightly meetings the entertainment is varied as much as possible, with concerts, coloured films of holidays at home and abroad, housey-housey, talks, etc. Once a month the chiropodist visits our Club, and a very fair percentage of our members take advantage of this excellent service. Outings included a day at Bournemouth, tours of our own beauty spots, tour of Leicestershire, including St. Bernard's Monastery, and an extra good high tea and concert for Christmas. Nine members enjoyed the County's Holiday at Clacton for old people. They really do appreciate all that is done for them.”

**WEEDON DARBY AND JOAN CLUB.**—Chairman, Mrs. M. Beard, who gave this report : “ Meetings are held fortnightly and are much enjoyed both by members and helpers. Entertainments include free Bingo for prizes which have been donated, cards and a raffle, the members themselves providing the prizes. Tea is followed by music and singing. The Christmas party was a great success, and each member received a small present. The dinner was excellent, and musical entertainment was provided by the Kettering ' Pensioners' Choir.' As a generous gift from a friend of the Club two coach parties had a very enjoyable outing to Northampton for tea and a visit to the



Repertory Theatre. The Club's anniversary was celebrated in April by a birthday party, followed by singing, games, etc. Various coach trips have been arranged to places of interest. Members receive attention from the chiropodist for 3/-, the remainder of the cost being borne by the Club. Visits are made to those members in hospital, and two invalid chairs have been obtained to assist the not-so-active members to get about."

WOODFORD-CUM-MEMBRIS DARBY AND JOAN WELFARE COMMITTEE. Report given by Mr. J. W. Anscomb, J.P., C.A.: "The Woodford-cum-Membris Darby and Joan Welfare Committee has had a very difficult year financially. Our chiropody service has been a very heavy drain on our resources owing to the increase in charge made by the chiropodist we were employing. We had been operating a monthly service, and now, to conserve our funds, have had to extend the period to five weeks unless there was a genuine reason for the shorter interval. The services of a chiropodist nearer at hand have been obtained and is saving us travelling costs, and we hope by these means to put our finances on an even keel again.

"Attendances at Club meetings keep at a fairly constant level, and the number of our members taking advantage of the County Holiday Scheme at Clacton was the highest ever.

"Finding sufficient people able and willing to entertain at Club meetings remains a problem, but our Secretary, Mrs. R. G. Furniss, continues to produce a varied programme."

CRICK DARBY AND JOAN CLUB (Report supplied by Mrs. M. Spencer).—The Crick Darby and Joan Club is a very thriving one, in fact people are so anxious to join that they are counting the days till their 60th birthday. We have had a full and busy programme this year, having had visits and film shows from various national firms. We have also had visits from Mrs. Nosen, of the W.V.S., and other officers. One of our most successful afternoons was an exhibition of treasured possessions, when each member brought an article and then told us about its history. We have had a Bring and Buy afternoon and also an Auction Sale, which realised £25. We sat 70 down to a Christmas dinner of turkey, vegetables, etc., followed by trifle and fruit salad. Each member had a Christmas present. Then we had an entertainment given by members of the Women's Institute. Several garden meetings have been held, at one of which we had a competition for the best posy by the ladies and the best buttonhole by the men. Judging was done by the whole Club. A coach party went to a strawberry tea in aid of Cancer Relief. We have also been to the pantomime. Our Committee produce a delectable tea on our meeting days. We have a large Catering Committee so that the rota comes round once every 9 or 10 weeks. We have had two mystery bus trips, when a packed tea was taken — a "nosebag" being provided for each member! Our Main Committee is as follows: Leader, Mrs. Spencer; Deputy Mrs. Priestly; Secretary, Mrs. Pettegree; Teas, Mrs. Reynolds.



SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

**Water Supplies :** All parishes of the District, with the exception of Ashby St. Ledgers, have mains water supplies under the control of the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board. Ashby St. Ledgers has a mains supply but it is privately owned and controlled. It is now only the very isolated farms and cottages which do not have a mains supply. This is purely an economic problem, but even so, many of the very isolated properties have now been connected to the mains. There was generally an adequate supply of water and of good quality, being constantly treated by chlorination, and is regularly analysed by the Water Board. The imperative necessity of proper sewage disposal works in the villages with a now abundant water supply cannot be too strongly emphasised.

Enquiries made as to condition of supplies	...	...	...	96
Number of samples sent for analysis	...	...	...	18

With one exception these analyses were satisfactory. All 4 samples came from wells, and in each instance a mains supply is not available. All the wells were cleansed and chlorinated.

# STATISTICS SHOWING HOUSES WITH PIPED OR NON-PIPED WATER SUPPLIES

	PIPED SUPPLY		NON-PIPED SUPPLY
	No. of Houses with Laid-on Supply	Stand Tap Supply	No. of Houses with Private Well
Ashby St. Ledgers	44	3	5
Badby	149	20	7
Barby	182	2	5
Braunston	370	15	9
Brockhall	6	—	2
Byfield	297	2	9
Canons Ashby	6	—	4
Catesby	24	—	4
Charwelton	46	—	5
Clay Coton	14	—	3
Crick	292	5	8
Dodford	39	8	6
Elkington	10	—	8
Everdon	126	—	4
Farthingstone	52	6	2
Fawsley	9	—	4
Flore	338	9	8
Hellidon	53	—	3
Kilsby	209	—	4
Lilbourne	105	—	4
Lōng Buckby	834	8	10
Newnham	130	—	4
Norton	83	18	8
Preston Capes	57	—	3
Stanford	10	—	2
Staverton	108	—	8
Stowe -IX-Churches	44	16	6
Watford	68	9	6
Weedon Bec	493	7	6
Welton	131	10	3
West Haddon	243	18	8
Whilton	46	15	6
Winwick	32	—	1
Woodford Halse	617	2	5
Yelvertoft	142	16	4
	<hr/> 5409	<hr/> 189	<hr/> 180

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL, SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The year saw the completion of the new Welton sewers and sewage disposal works. The schemes for Everdon, Charwelton, and Norton had been commenced, and should be nearing their completion in the year ahead. The Farthingstone scheme, a joint scheme with Lichborough in the Towcester Rural District, had not started, there still being several matters to be finalised. The Public Health Committee will endeavour to provide sewage works in other parishes, but the upward trend of costs has brought a very heavy expenditure on the Council, and the Committee, although determined to launch still further schemes, will watch this expenditure. The following table shows the parishes of the District with proper sewage disposal schemes :—

Ashby St. Ledgers	Newnham
Badby	Staverton
Barby	Watford
Braunston	Weedon Bec
Byfield	Welton
Crick	West Haddon
Flore	Winwick
Kilsby	Woodford Halse
Long Buckby	Yelvertoft
Lilbourne	

The general drainage in all the sewered parishes was satisfactory, although in one or two parishes the existing sewage disposal plants require modernisation of an urgent nature, since the building of new houses has meant an increase in the flow of sewage to the works, and some of the works are not now capable of dealing efficiently with this increased flow. In those parishes with no sewers, the drainage position is not so satisfactory, although a number of properties have their own septic tanks.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs.**—No cases were brought to notice.

**The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.**—Seven new licences were granted during the year, each for a single caravan. All licences, with the exception of the Long Buckby site, are for single caravans. The Long Buckby site is licensed for 20 caravans plus a licence to site 5 caravans for short periods. It was necessary to institute proceedings against the owner of a piece of land for permitting it to be used as a caravan site, which were only taken after the person in question had ignored informal notices by the department and a letter from the Council concerning the siting of caravans without a licence being obtained. The offender was fined by the magistrates for contravention of the Act.



**PESTS ACT, 1949.**—The scheme continued to operate with success. The operative worked on a part-time basis on pests destruction and refuse collection. There was an increase in the treatments to private houses and refuse tips, while more time was spent on the baiting of the sewers and sewage works, and on giving advice and making inspections at private houses. The table following shows the extent of work carried out :—

Inspection of private dwellings	933
Inspection s of Council dwellings	989
Inspections of farm premises	92
Treatments to private houses	182
Treatments to Council dwellings	44
Total visits during treatments	924
Number of sewer manholes baited	1018
Number of follow-up treatments necessary	2298
Number of treatments to sewage works	62
Number of follow-up treatments necessary	180
Number of treatments to refuse tips	146
Number of follow-up treatments necessary	439
Total mileage covered by the van	5397 miles

Poisons used : 150lbs. Warfarin; 311lbs. Sewer-Warfarin.  
 Baits used :: 1266lbs. Pinhead Oatmeal.

**REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION.**—The regular weekly collection of household refuse and salvage continued throughout the District, and once again there was little complaint from the general public concerning this work. The amount of refuse collected continued to increase week by week, due in the main to the increase in the numbers of dwellings being built, and also to the varying types of refuse now put out for collection. The refuse was chiefly vegetable matter, with tins and bottles, with ashes very much reduced in quantity. This presents a greater problem in keeping tips tidy, and it has been necessary to partially cover the refuse with soil in order to contain it, then at a later date to go over the soiled portion again. This appears to be a waste of soil, but it has to be done to try and keep a reasonable state on the tips. It is now necessary for overtime to be worked almost every day, due to the longer hauls and more loads of refuse daily, and entails more time being spent on tips. With the present size of vehicles and staff there is no alternative. The collection of salvage continued, but the market was very poor throughout the year, and there was a decided decrease in the amount received for the sale of salvage, it being only £289 9s. od. There did not appear to be any signs of recovery in this particular trade.

## **PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936.—**

Number of licences granted	2
Number of licences renewed	79
Number of Cellulose Solutions licences renewed	1

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (PART X) CANAL BOATS.**—The old established canal boat builder's yard at Braunston is now converted into a pleasure boat dock and repair yard. The smaller wharf at Bottom Lock, Braunston, was still used by a canal carrying company, but no boats were built. The pleasure boat cruisers, many of them converted canal barges, but chiefly the more modern type of smaller craft, appeared very popular with all ages. The industry gave some employment to Braunston persons.

# **FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACTS, 1937 to 1961**

## **Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1963 for the Rural District of Daventry in the County of Northants Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Act**

### **PART I OF THE ACT**

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sects. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority .....	65	65	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority .....	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—

2.—CASES in which defects were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two three or more cases).

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences not relating to Outworkers	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	—	—	—

No lists of Outworkers were received during the year.



## HOUSING

During the year 6 new Council dwellings were completed and occupied as compared with 24 the previous year.

There was a decrease in the number of existing Council houses becoming vacant and being re-let. The figure was 39, compared with 61 the previous year, so that during the year 45 Council dwellings were allocated, in some part for slum clearance work and the remainder to the waiting list.

The waiting list at the end of the year showed 546 applicants wanting Council house accommodation. There were 150 fresh applicants during the year. Of this number of 546, 108 are from persons in Council houses wanting exchange to a bungalow or different type house, while 148 were from persons residing outside the district.

Steady progress was maintained in connection with dealing with unfit properties in the District. A progress report is given in a later page of this report.

The 6 new dwellings completed and occupied were at Long Buckby.

There were 12 dwellings in course of erection at the end of the year.

It is pleasing to report that 158 privately owned houses were completed and occupied during the year. The statistics shown in an earlier page of this report gives the parishes where progress was made, and, at the end of the year a further 145 privately owned houses were in course of erection.

Council houses re-let by parish representatives	39
Council tenants given permission to take a lodger	13
Council tenants refused permission to take a lodger	5
Internal exchanges of Council houses permitted	18
External exchange of Council house permitted	1
Council house tenancies transferred	16

## HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958

### HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

#### as amended by HOUSING ACT, 1961

The year showed a decrease in the number of applications for "Discretionary Grant" and for "Standard Grant."

The summaries given below show the amount of work which has been necessary for the approval of applications and then later for inspecting the completed works and approving payment of grant.

#### Discretionary Grant

Number of applications received	13
Number of applications not approved by the Ministry	1
	—
Number of applications approved for grant	12
	—
Total cost of improvements approved	£3,804
(of this total the Council contribute 25% and the Ministry the remainder)	
Total estimated costs of works approved	£7,872

Since the Act came into force, 284 applications have been received for grant. Of these, 19 were withdrawn by applicants; 52 were not approved due to failure to comply with the requirements of the Act; 213 have been approved costing some £48,916 in Improvement Grant. By the end of the year works in respect of 175 applications had been completed and grant paid.

#### Standard Grant

The number of applications received was 34, which was 11 fewer than for the previous year. All were approved by the Council. These approved grants showed a total amount of grant to be paid as £4,775. By the end of the year 183 applications for Standard Grant had been approved by the Council since the Act came into force, and totalling £24,530 in grant aid to be paid. Further, at the end of the year, works in respect of 130 applications had been completed and grant paid.

## HOUSING ACTS, 1936-57

1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—	
(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	878
(b) Inspections made for the purpose	1005
(c) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head above) which were inspected and recorded	97
(d) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	50
(e) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	47
2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice : Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Public Health Inspector	
	38
3.—Action by Local Authority under the Housing and Public Health Acts by serving of informal notices :—	
(a) under the Housing Act	
Number of dwelling houses requiring defects to be remedied	24
Number of dwelling houses, repairs carried out by owners	24
Number of dwelling houses, repaired by local authority	nil
(b) under the Public Health Act	
Number of dwelling houses requiring defects to be remedied	42
Number of dwelling houses, defects remedied by owners	40
Number of houses, defects remedied by local authority	nil
4.—Proceedings under sects. 16 and 17 Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(i) Number of Demolition Orders made	25
(ii) Number of houses demolished in respect of Demolition Orders	11
(iii) Number of houses demolished, undertakings having been previously given by owners	9
(iv) Number of houses, where Undertakings were accepted	6
(v) Number of Undertakings cancelled, dwellings been made fit	13
(vi) Number of houses upgraded to either category " 1 " or " 2 " repairs and improvements having been carried out	11
(vii) Number of Closing Orders made for separate dwellings	8
(viii) Number of dwellings demolished, after Closing Orders had been made	6
(ix) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	6
(x) Number of dwellings put to some other use	2
(xi) Number of dwellings voluntarily demolished by owners, after informal action	—

The numbers of dwellings dealt with during the year are shown at (i), (iv), (vi), and (vii).

Overcrowding.—As the result of the Council's own re-housing it was known that 6 cases of overcrowding, involving some 22 persons, were abated.



## HOUSING ACTS, 1936-57

No Clearance Areas were made by the Council during the year. Slum Clearance work was again carried out under sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, either as Individual Demolition Orders, Closing Orders, or Undertakings given by owners. The year's work is shown on the previous page of this report.

The following table shows the progress of dealing with Unfit Houses in the District since mid-1955 to 31st December, 1963 :—

(a) Houses dealt with in Clearance Areas	84
(b) Houses in Clearance Areas and now demolished	80
(c) Houses in Individual Demolition Orders	111
(d) Houses in Demolition Orders but now made fit	4
(e) Houses in Demolition Orders and now demolished	75
(f) Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	141
(g) Houses dealt with as Closing Orders, but now made fit	38
(h) Houses dealt with as Closing Orders but now demolished	31
(i) Houses in respect of which Undertakings were accepted	136
(j) Houses in respect of which Undertakings were cancelled, the houses being made fit	49
(k) Houses where Undertakings were accepted but demolished	34
(l) Houses voluntarily demolished after informal action	31
(m) Houses upgraded due to repairs and improvements being made	143

The Council submitted their first Five Year Plan in August, 1955, and outlined that 294 houses would be dealt with. A further Five Year Plan was submitted in 1960. This plan outlined another 228 houses to be dealt with, making a total of 522 houses. However, by the end of 1963 a total of 646 unfit dwellings had been dealt with, so that the combined targets for the Two Plans had already been passed, and another one and a half years of the second plan remain. The rate of progress had been reasonably good, and if continued the Council will greatly reduce their overall number of sub-standard houses in the District in a much shorter time than at first appeared possible. However, there is some increase in the numbers of slum houses each year, and some of these have already been dealt with, as they have become empty. The problem of the elderly owner-occupiers is one that causes concern, and they are being dealt with, as they become empty. The figures shown in the table at (a), (c), (f), (i), (l), and (m) give the total of houses dealt with.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

**Milk Supply.**—The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, were in force, and brought earlier regulations into line with modern methods of milk production.

The enforcement of the Regulations is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and as regards distribution and infected milk, the Local Authority.

All milk sold in the District is "Designated," of one type or another, the general types being Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested, although there was also quite a deal of Sterilised milk sold in the District. Supplies were generally satisfactory throughout the area.

Fifteen Dealers' Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk, 9 to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk, and 3 to sell Sterilised Milk were in force. There were 4 larger dairy firms and one smaller firm operating in the District, and together they serve a large part of the District. These firms are licensed by other Authorities and consequently have Dealers' Licences for this District. None have depots or dairies in this District.

**Bakehouses.**—There were still 4 bakehouses operating. These were frequently inspected and in two cases informal action was necessary for the cleansing and lime-washing of the bakehouses.

**Shops.**—These were generally satisfactory. All have been inspected and recorded. Cafes were also inspected at frequent intervals.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

#### SAMPLES TAKEN IN DAVENTRY RURAL DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1963, BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Milk	50	Brought forward	70
Meat Products	9	Spirits	2
Fish Products	1	Jelly	1
Cream	2	Soup	1
Ice Cream	1	Butter	1
Tea	1	Bread and Butter	3
Jam	1	Meat and Fish Pastes	3
Fruit and Vegetables	4	Cheese	2
Soft Drinks	1	Ground Almonds	1
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Carried forward	70	Total	84

**Remarks.**—One milk sample was reported by the Public Analyst to be deficient in fat. Follow-up samples taken from the farm of the producer showed the deficiency to be due to additional milk obtained from yet another source. Certain advice regarding the mixing of the milk has resulted in further samples from this source being reported as genuine.

All the remaining samples were completely satisfactory.

Types of Shops, etc., in the Rural District :—

Bakehouses with shops	4
Bank branch offices	5
Betting Shops	5
Boots and Shoes only	3
Butchers' Shops	19
Cafes	9
Canteens	12
Cats' Homes	2
Chemists	2
Clubs	5
Confectionery only	2
Cycles only	2
Dogs Homes	4
Drapery only	9
Fire Stations	2
Fish Shops	3
Furniture	5
General Stores	65
Hardware only	3
Hairdressers	10
Hostels	2
Home for Blind Children	1
Nurserymen	3
Off-Licence with General Stores	1
Paints, etc. only	2
Post Offices only	5
Post Offices with General Stores	22
Post Office with Public House	1
Public Houses only	55
Police Houses	9
Slaughter-houses	4
Stationery, Sweets, etc.	2
T.V, Wireless, etc.	5
Upholsterer	1



## MEAT :

Five slaughterhouses were in constant use throughout the year, but the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had finally made the appointed day for this District. It would be 1st April, 1964. Three of the five slaughterhouses had been brought up to standard. That at Crick was in course of completion and would be in use early in the coming year. The other at Woodford Halse would cease completely, since the owner had decided not to go ahead with the necessary improvements. A considerable amount of time has been spent in the slaughterhouses examining carcase meat before sale to the public. The new Meat Inspection Regulations came into operation on 1st October. These Regulations, intended to cover the sale to the public of all slaughtered animals for human consumption, placed the onus of inspection on the Local Authority and on the butcher to notify all instances of killings before sale to the public. A number of butchers buy their meat wholesale. So far as possible, all animals, before 1st October were inspected and daily visits were necessary to Braunston and Crick. No unsound meat was found exposed for sale. Sixteen licences to act as slaughtermen were renewed.

The table below shows the carcasses inspected and the incidence of any disease evident at those inspections :—

	Cattle Exclud Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) .. ..	1681	42	10	—	1373
Number inspected .. .. .	1681	42	10	7940	1373
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	121	—	—	130	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci .. ..	7.3	—	—	1.6	1.99
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	4	—	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	.24	—	—	—	.51
<b>Cysticercosis:</b>					
Carcasses of which some part was condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration .. .. .	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

There was no slaughtering of horses for human consumption.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

344 cases of infectious diseases were notified, showing a considerable increase on last year's figure of 40 cases. This was due to the increase in measles notifications, which continues its biennial incidence.

This year has been satisfactory insofar as other types of infectious disease were concerned. There were 16 cases of dysentery, 1 case of food poisoning, but no case of poliomyelitis.

**Measles.**—Numbers increased from 24 last year to 300. This disease, though highly infectious, is now, like scarlet fever, of a benign character, seldom showing serious complication. However, in the more delicate and occasionally in normal children the unpleasant complications of eye, ear, or lung infection still occur. These, however, are usually soon and successfully dealt with by the large number of effective antibiotics that are now available.

**Whooping Cough.**—A slight increase in notifications. The County Council and many general practitioners have now adopted the method of early immunisation to this illness, starting at 2 — 3 months, and it is to be hoped there will be fewer cases of this disease which, when it attacks in early infancy is so distressing and often dangerous.

**Scarlet Fever.**—The illness was without exception very mild and no serious complications resulted. There were only 3 cases notified.

**Poliomyelitis.**—No cases occurred. This is gratifying, and now, with very large numbers immunised, it is to be hoped that there will be a steady decline in incidence and severity of this infection. It has been found that with the immunisation of a high percentage of the population there is a decline of circulating virus in the community, and though themselves not immunised, this helped to protect the other members of the community from infection.

**Dysentery.**—16 cases have occurred. They were all due to *Sonné* dysentery. Five cases from Badby in May, four from Flore in March and April, and six from Weedon in June were all family outbreaks only, and were contained without spread to other households. This was largely due to prompt preventive action taken immediately after notification. The other remaining case was a single one only.

**Food Poisoning.**—This was a solitary case of *Salmonella Typhimurium* in a schoolboy who was probably infected while on holiday in Scotland. No further cases occurred in the District, though there was one case in a school-girl from the Borough of Daventry, who may possibly have contracted the infection from this boy, as they attended the same school.

**Influenza.**—No deaths were recorded. The number of cases during the year is not known.

**Bronchitis.**—Nine deaths were recorded.

**Pneumonia.**—Seven deaths were recorded.

**Smallpox.**—No case occurred.

**Infective Hepatitis.**—There was one case, in November, from Everdon.

## Period Distribution of Notified Cases of Infectious Disease

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Measles	34	104	40	9	5	12	13	7	14	53	9	—	300
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	3	3	4	4	—	3	—	1	—	20
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Dysentery	—	—	—	4	2	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	16
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	35	104	43	17	1	25	18	7	17	55	11	1	344

## Parish Distribution of Infectious Diseases

PARISH	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Dysentery</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Food Poisoning</i>	<i>Infective Hepatitis</i>	Total
Ashby St. Ledgers ..	15								15
Badby .. ..	16	4			5				25
Barby .. ..	4	1			1		1		7
Braunston .. ..	6	3		1					10
Brockhall .. ..	2								2
Byfield .. ..	2								2
Canons Ashby .. ..	4								4
Charwelton .. ..	4		1						5
Crick .. ..	36								36
Dodford .. ..	2								2
Everdon .. ..	7	1						1	9
Farthingstone .. ..	1								1
Flore .. ..	39				4				43
Kilsby .. ..	4		1						5
Lilbourne .. ..	1		1						2
Long Buckby .. ..	6	1							7
Newnham .. ..	3								3
Norton .. ..	7								7
Preston Capes .. ..	8								8
Staverton .. ..	2								2
Watford .. ..	14	2							16
Weedon .. ..	1	2			6				9
Welton .. ..	36	3		1		1			41
West Haddon .. ..	1								1
Whilton .. ..	7	3							10
Woodford Halse ..	72								72
Totals	300	20	3	2	16	1	1	1	344



**Tuberculosis.**—Vaccination is offered against tuberculosis by the County Council to all children at 13 years of age. This is carried out in the schools and there is a high acceptance rate.

There were 5 new cases notified during the year, 3 males and 2 females. All were pulmonary cases. In addition there were 3 inward transfers, 2 males and 1 female. All were pulmonary tuberculosis. 3 of the new cases, 2 males and 1 female, were notified only a very short time before death.

**Cases on the Council' Register and other relevant details regarding  
Tuberculosis for 1963**

	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL
	Respiratory	Other	Respiratory	Other	
Cases at Dec. 1962 ..	24	5	24	12	65
Notified 1963, including Inward Transfers	5	—	3	—	8
Total of above 2 columns	29	5	27	12	73
LESS: Those Cured (A)	—	—	7	—	7
Left District (B)	1	—	—	—	1
Deaths (C)	2	—	2	—	4
Total of (A) : (B) : (C)	3	—	9	—	12
Cases remaining on Register at December 1963	26	5	18	12	61

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Children are offered protection to the following diseases:—Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, and Smallpox.

These immunisations are either done at County Council clinics or by General Practitioners.

A list of County Council Child Welfare Clinics held in this area is shown below:—

1 West Haddon	2nd Tuesday of month
2 Weedon	3rd Tuesday of month
3 Woodford Halse	3rd Wednesday of month
4 Long Buckby	4th Wednesday of month

In addition the mobile clinic operates twice a month in the district and mothers from the following villages can attend :—Norton, Staverton, Badby, Newnham, Everdon, Preston Capes, Charwelton, and Whilton, on the 4th Monday of the month, while those from Yelvertoft, Lilbourne, Elkington, and Winwick attend on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Figures for the District are not available this year, but will be included in the County Council statistics.

**DIPHTHERIA.**—There has been no case of diphtheria in Northamptonshire since 1956. There is therefore with each successive year of freedom from infection a diminishing public recollection of the dangers of this disease. Mothers without knowledge of this illness feel a false security and may fail to have their children immunised. That this is a dangerous situation cannot be too strongly stressed, and only by keeping up the number of children immunised may this dread disease be kept at bay. It is the duty of all parents to have their children immunised and if they fail to do so they neglect their children's welfare.

**WHOOPING COUGH.**—This can be a distressing and, in infancy, a serious illness. Protection is given in the form of triple immunisation together with Tetanus and Diphtheria.

**POLIOMYELITIS.**—Once again there have been no cases, and this freedom can be ascribed to immunisation, as the decline in incidence has occurred concurrently with vaccination. The oral Sabin vaccine is now used which gives a longer lasting immunity than the Salk or injected variety. A drink of syrup or a lump of sugar is also much more acceptable to the young patients than the previous needle prick.

**SMALLPOX.**—The incidence of vaccination rose last year as public reaction to the cases of imported smallpox was considerable. It is probable that there will be a fall this year. The vaccination of children is still necessary and should be carried out sometime during the first two years of life, preferably between the first and second year.





